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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT**13 MAY 2019**

(U) CALIFORNIA**(U) Simi Valley – Chilean Burglary Gangs Causing Havoc in Southern California**

(U) The thieves, using Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) visas that allow them to travel to the United States for tourism or business for 90 days or less without first obtaining a visa and then targeting high-end homes, cars, and businesses. Dubbed by authorities as “burglary tourism,” sophisticated gangs comprised of Chilean nationals are suspected of committing a string of thefts in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Orange counties, including a \$1.2 million heist in March at a Laguna Niguel jewelry store.

SOURCE: 12 May 2019, [The Orange County Register](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) Texas – Nearly 400 Migrants Walk and Surrender to US Agents**

(U) El Paso – Nearly 400 migrants walked for about 12 miles along the US-Mexico border looking for an unfenced area to surrender themselves to authorities on the US side. The group eventually found a spot near the Santa Fe bridge in Downtown El Paso, where they were met and detained by US Border Patrol agents.

SOURCE: 9 May 2019, [KTSM](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) Illinois – 4 Alleged Chicago Gang Members Indicted on Federal Charges**

(U) Chicago – Four suspected Chicago gang members have been indicted on federal racketeering conspiracy charges stemming from several deadly shootings. The members of the Milwaukee Kings gang, were charged in an indictment unsealed on 10 May, claims the group committed three murders and two attempted murders between 2015 and 2017.

SOURCE: 12 May 2019, [Fox News](#)

(U) New York – MS-13 Murders Down, But Gang is Trying to Rebuild

(U) Long Island – Between 2016 and 2017 there were approximately two dozen MS-13 linked homicides in Long Island and in 2018 there has been only one. Investigators attribute the decrease to hundreds of arrests after a series of high-profile slayings that spotlighted the gang, and aggressive prosecutions that put some of the leaders behind bars.

SOURCE: 12 May 2019, [Newsday](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Burkina Faso – Attack On Catholic Church Leaves Six Dead**

(U) Dablo – Six people were killed yesterday during mass at a Catholic church in central Burkina Faso, according to state media. Gunmen on motorcycles stormed the church in the village of Dablo yesterday

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morning, killing six men – including the priest, before setting fire to the church and buildings in the area, the Burkina Information Agency reported.

SOURCE: 12 May 2019, [CNN](#)

(U) Pakistan – Five Killed in Attack on Luxury Pakistan Hotel, Military Says

(U) Islamabad – Five people including a soldier were killed after gunmen stormed a five-star luxury hotel in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province, the military said yesterday. The attack on Pearl Continental in the port city of Gwadar left four hotel employees and a Pakistan Navy soldier dead on Saturday. Six others were injured, including two army captains, two navy soldiers and two hotel employees. The military said that all three attackers, who planned to take hotel guests hostage, had been killed.

SOURCE: 12 May 2019, [CNN](#)

(U) Somalia – US Airstrikes Kill 13 ISIS Terrorists

(U) London – A US air strike killed 13 Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) fighters in Somalia's semi-autonomous Puntland region on 8 May, the US military said. ISIS has gathered recruits in Puntland, although experts say the scale of its force is unclear and it remains a small player compared al Qaeda-linked al-Shabaab group that once controlled much of Somalia.

SOURCE: 9 May 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Russia Is Targeting Europe's Elections

(U) London – Less than two weeks before pivotal elections for the European Parliament, a constellation of websites and social media accounts linked to Russia or far-right groups is spreading disinformation, encouraging discord and amplifying distrust in the centrist parties that have governed for decades. European Union investigators, academics and advocacy groups say the new disinformation efforts share many of the same digital fingerprints or tactics used in previous Russian attacks, including the Kremlin's interference in the 2016 US presidential campaign.

SOURCE: 12 May 2019, [The New York Times](#)

(U) United Arab Emirates – Four Commercial Vessels Sabotaged near UAE Waters

(U) Dubai – Four commercial ships off the eastern coast of the United Arab Emirates "were subjected to sabotage operations", just hours after Iranian and Lebanese media outlets aired false reports of explosions at a nearby Emirati port. The reported incident came after the US warned ships that "Iran or its proxies" could be targeting maritime traffic in the region, and as America deploys an aircraft carrier strike group and B-52 bombers to the Persian Gulf to counter alleged threats from Tehran.

SOURCE: 12 May 2019, [The Guardian](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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